# The Campus Observer

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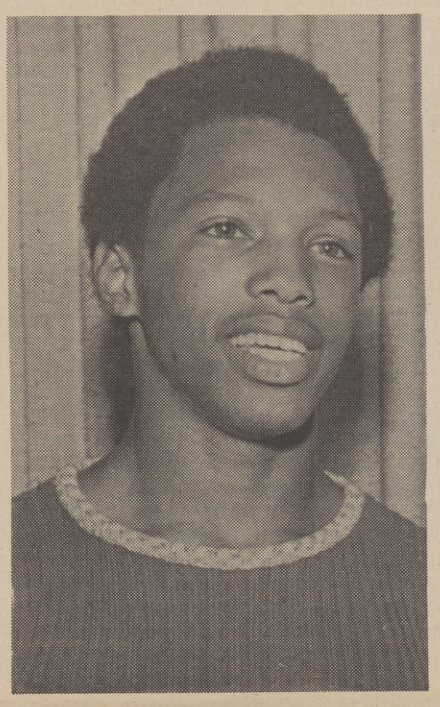
## SACRAMENTO'S BLACK YOUTH

JEANETTE LARUE

JEAN CHAN



CARLTON PURDIE

BARBARA BYRD

## CANDID INTERVIEW WITH EIGHT TEENAGERS

# Students Talk About Their Future

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Campus Observer, in keeping with our tradition of youth representation, recently polled Sacramento area youth in search of Black student opinions of themselves, their schools, and their futures. These eight students were chosen primarily because they represent different schools within the Sacramento area. Their views, we found, were a good cross-section of other Black students.

by MAURICE O'RAY
Observer Youth Editor

Corinthius King, 15, knows exactly what he wants out of life. Says Corinthius: "I want to be me. I want to be someone special, somebody big in life. I hope to be a successful businessman."

He has only one disturbing thought: "I always fear not being able to finish what I have started in life." Corinthius later admitted, "I also fear God." Like most young men, Corinthisus's hobbies include, fishing, swimming, football and auto racing.

What did appear to be an unanimous feeling among the high school students interviewed by THE CAMPUS OBSERVER, were their fear of God, and their determiniation to be successful in life. They repeatedly stressed their desire to help others - to make a contribution to their community.

The question of school brought some frowns from the young people. The students were asked what they would like to see change in school.

Corinthius King: "I am only a sophomore, so it is kind of hard for me to tell just yet. When I become a Junior or Senior, I will probably have a lot to complain about."

David Ignacio, 18, has an inspiring thought for his fellow students: "I would like to see students respect one anothers likes and dislikes. This is the main thing I would like to see in regards to changes in school."

David has the all too common fear of failure. The majority of students polled share this fear. Says David: "What I fear most, is failure. Not being able to expand my life and mind which any person is capable of doing if so desired. As for my future, I would like to strive toward being an individual.

"I mean I would like to shape my life without being what society wants me to be. Society puts people in little boxes, giving a person only a certain amount of room to expand."

The need for individuality in today's world, is very strong among the students surveyed. Some older individuals in our society are inclined to believe that the younger generation is shameless and have decaying moral fibers; actually the opposite is true.

Carlton Purdiz, 17, has this to say: "The thing that I fear most, is sin, and the hate that people have for one another. To me, sin and hate can kill."

Carlton likes school as far as education goes. However, he says: "I would like to see prayer in school. Prayer is very important for people of all ages."

The question of prayer in schools is highly controversial but is somewhat reassuring to know that some young people have not lost touch with their spiritual beliefs in this age of materialism.

Jeanette LaRue, 17, sees apathy on the part of students as being an unwanted element in school. Says Jeanette: "I would like to see more student involvement. Apathy is a big problem in many schools. If students would get involved with their school, they would find that their lives would be a lot more meaningful."

Ms. LaRue is enthusiastic about education, her reason is simple: "I would like to be something that other normal teenagers are not. By that, I mean that I don't want to be just one of the 'finger-snapping, can't-wait-to-get-out -of school,' type. I would like to make enough money to support myself and to know that I am doing work that I enjoy."

Jeanette's hobbies reflect her student involvement. "I am mainly involved in Student Activities. I was recently elected Student Body Vice-President and most of my time is devoted to that particular job and the school newspaper." She goes on to say: "I fear that I will not get proper chances to make something of myself. I know my abilities, but without the chance to show others what I can do, my goals cannot be reached."

If one were to ask the majority of young people today for the name of their favorite sport figure, one would receive the names of those who show obvious physical superiority, however, Jeanette judges athletes on a different scale. "Skill is not the only factor, sportsmanship is very important in my books. Someone who displays good sportsmanship on an off the field, will be a favorite of mine."

Nadine Stephens, 16, has a delightfully refreshing outlook on her future. Says Nadine: "I will try to make the best of my life while I can. All of our lives are so short, that I don't wish to waste a moment. If I could be successful in whatever I do, I will be satisfied." Ms. Stephens enjoys both sewing and dancing as her hobbies.

Nadine is an energetic young woman who has but one fear: "I fear that one day, the world will come to an end." I found that this particular fear is a unique one among young people. Perhaps the fear of life for today's youth overshadows the fear of death.

As far as school rules are concerned, Nadine Stephens says: "I would like to see some of the rules changed to more sensible ones." However, she did have examples to pass on at the time.

Geraldine LaRue, 15, does have one suggestion in regards to change in school: "There must be more Black students participating in school, that includes academic activities as well as social groups. I would like see more Black teachers who can relate to Black students." Strangely enough the need for more Black teachers was rarely voiced by the students surveyed. One reason might be that minority hiring in the Sacramento Unified School District, is gradually becoming a pleasant reality to the students.

Today's Black women are taking their place in the fast-paced and high-paying professional fields. According to the female students surveyed, the majority feel that Black women in this country, must fight to overcome both racial and sexual discrimination. In my opinion, it is refreshing to see such feminist awareness in high school students.

Jean Chan, 15, is anxious to get into a professional career for several reasons: "I would like to hold the type of job which it would be possible to help myself and others too. I think I would

(Continued on Page 4)

## EDITORIAL

# Campus Violence

by MAURICE O'RAY
Observer Youth Editor

It seems high school's in Sacramento have had their share of campus violence. From 1968 to 1970, racial violence on campuses seemed to be the order of the day. In 1972, however, a change in students attitudes took place.

Many high school administrators have attributed the change to a more relevant curriculum, and perhaps to a point they are right. I feel inclined to believe that the real credit should be placed on society.

After all, a student doesn't live entirely in school. They are bombarded by racial prejudice, sexual discrimination and corruption everyday from society, not their high school classmates.

From a Black students point of view, much still needs to be changed in the high school educational system. During the racial troubles of the late 1960's, Black students were fighting more for their dignity and self-pride than they were for a better high school curriculum.

Society as usual mis-interpreted young Blacks actions. While a more relevant education was the battle cry, 'Black Pride," sparked the drive. During that point in time, Black students were almost entirely blamed by society and the media for creating the tense problem. I say the blame was quite naturally mis-placed.

The problem of race in our society has existed since the time of man. Black students as well as whites, merely moved the battlefield from the streets of our cities to the high school campuses.

In a riot situation at a high school, the presence of police often creates more tension than an angry crowd of students. To say one specific group was to blame, is foolish and incorrect.

The efforts of Black students of yester-year have not been in vain. Racial violence among teenagers seems to be the only way of waking up society to the need for change in our social and educational attitudes.

In addition, high school administrators in Sacramento for example, have taken great strides in developing a more relevant education for minority students. I am not attempting to justify the use of violence, I am merely an advocate of change.

It is very unlikely that Sacramento high school's will be plagued by a repeat of violence witnessed a few years ago. However, this is not to say, that Black students are content with the educational process.

The majority of Black students today, are anxious to get in the mainstream of society. They realize that it is necessary to first get an early education. This idea is a healthy one for the Black community.

The benefits are obvious. Economic equality, if at all possible in this country, could be achieved by Blacks entering the vast number of highly paid professional fields, as has been the case for the past 50 years. We musn't forget however, that while economic equality is desperately needed in this country, so is social, racial and educational equality.

History has taught us as Black people, that we should not fear change. The events that took place a few years ago could have been avoided, but without those incidents, however violent they were, we would not have in our high schools many of the new minority courses.

It is my feeling and belief, that Black students have fought for a better education and partially won. Now it is time to get to work and prove to society that we are serious about education and truly possess the self-pride and dignity which has strengthened and reinforced our culture from generation through generation.

# 15,000 Expected For Davis Enrollment

More than 15,000 students are expected to enroll at the University of California, Davis, for the full quarter. Enrollment in the fall of 1972 was 15,290 - the previous campus high.

The projected enrollment for the quarter is 15,500 plus or minus two per cent, according to Robert Glock of the campus planning office. Orientation and testing begins September 17, and instruction begins the week of September 24.

Serving the educational goals of the students will be 2,520 academic employees, and 5,695 staff. Included in the total of 8,215 persons employed on the campus are an anticipated 2,420 students who will be employed part or half-time in academic or staff posts.

Fall quarter instruction ends December 6, and the quarter terminates December 14. Between these two dates are final examinations and registration for the winter quarter which begins January 3.

## 4-H's BEST

These young people are the best 4-H has to offer. They're part of the 4-H Report-to-the-Nation Team, a group of top 4-H members selected by the Cooperative Extension Service. Here, they are talking with 4-H leaders during 4-H Congress. During the year, the 4-H'ers travel around the country representing 4-H to others and showing them what 4-H can produce. Encouraging 4-H'ers "to make best better" through achievement and leadership programs are: The Conrad Hilton Hotel, sponsor of the 4-H Report-to-the Nation program; the Ford Motor Company Fund, which encourages young people in the 4-H achievement program; and Reader's Digest, a new 4-H doner in 1973, helps develop leadership abilities among 4-H'ers through the 4-H leadership program.

# 4-H Gets It All Together

Several years ago, the phrase, "generation gap," was bounced around by adults and young people alike. Youths were accused of not wanting to communicate with their elders, while their elders were accused of not wanting to talk to their youngsters.

Today, the "generation gap" has eased and both adults and kids can take some of the credit. Now, young people and adults are working together to solve mutual problems.

This sort of cooperation is well demonstrated through 4-H, which currently is observing 1973 National 4-H Week, October 7-13, keynoted with the theme "4-H Gets It All Together."

Across the country, five and a half million boys and girls, ages 9 to 19, a half million volunteer adult leaders and thousands of Extension Service personnel are involved in 4-H. Working together they are putting the 4-H Week theme into action, in many ways helping to make their communities better places in which to live.

The timeliness of their efforts is indicated by the current 4-H emphasis on helping educate communities on ways to economically operate vehicles and to conserve electricity during the current energy shortage.

Other 4-H groups are helping to ease the food shortage by supporting agricultural production and marketing efforts. Also drug abuse program, improving the environment, and community development planning are being given a high priority in 4-H programs.

Boys and girls, of different backgrounds, philosophies and lifestyles are working together with adults to solve common problems - that's the 4-H picture in 1973. 4-H brings together youths from all racial, economic, social and cultural backgrounds. Rural and city youngsters have an opportunity to interact, communicate and share ideas.

4-H is strong, and growing in all areas of the fifty states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Urban 4-H is expanding too. In fact, the major cities in the U.S., all have active 4-H programs.


# The Campus Observer

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THE CAMPUS OBSERVER, is a young Black newspaper geared to high school and college aged Black students.

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# Student Aid Program Information

A study published in the New York Times of the five principal assistance programs administered by the United States Office of Education for the 9 million students in post-secondary schools shows these major developments:

- Students from families with incomes beyond the $12,000 to $15,000 range are now almost entirely excluded from four of the five programs, financial need being the sole criterion and scholastic achievement having absolutely no bearing.
- The Guaranteed Student Loan Program, the only major federal plan in which students of the economic middle-class have had almost any hope of participating, is now also increasingly concentrating on the neediest - although the law says all income groups are eligible.
- The new Basic Educational Opportunity Grants, which were created to provide a $1,400 floor for full-time and part-time undergraduates, has received only enough funds to make maximum grants of $452. In addition, there is not sufficient money to make the grants available this year to seniors, juniors, sophomores or part-time freshmen.

Besides the plans for basic grants and guaranteed loans, the office of Education's other main programs for post-secondary students are supplemental educational opportunity grants, $210 million; college workstudy $270 million; and national direct student loans, $293 million.

Unlike the older programs in which students compete against each other for the available money, the new Basic Educational Opportunity Grants plan represents the first effort to institute universal aid for needy students. When fully operative, it would assure that every eligible student would receive the same minimum grant as every other student of similar need.

The Office of Education estimates that about $1 billion will be required to raise the program to full funding. The one federal plan for which students from all income groups remain eligible is the Guaranteed Student Loan Program.

A new needs analysis formula that went into effect in March for applicants for the interest-subsidized loans has, however, led to many of the students who previously qualified finding their loans are being reduced or cut off altogether.

"Letters are coming in every day from people with incomes of $9,000 and $10,000, telling us that they are being turned down," said David Bayer of the Office of Education's Insured Loans Division.

In addition, there is evidence that parents are reluctant to permit their children to apply for the loans because of the detailed information on assets that must now be divulged to the college. Across the country, the amount of money loaned under the program during the last five months, is down 41 per cent from a similar period last year, according to federal officials.

Only 2.7 per cent of the $5.7 billion that has been loaned since 1966, has gone to students from families with adjusted incomes in excess of $15,000.

## STATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Applications for state scholarships for the 1974-75 school year can be obtained by writing: Room 4072, State Capitol, Sacramento.

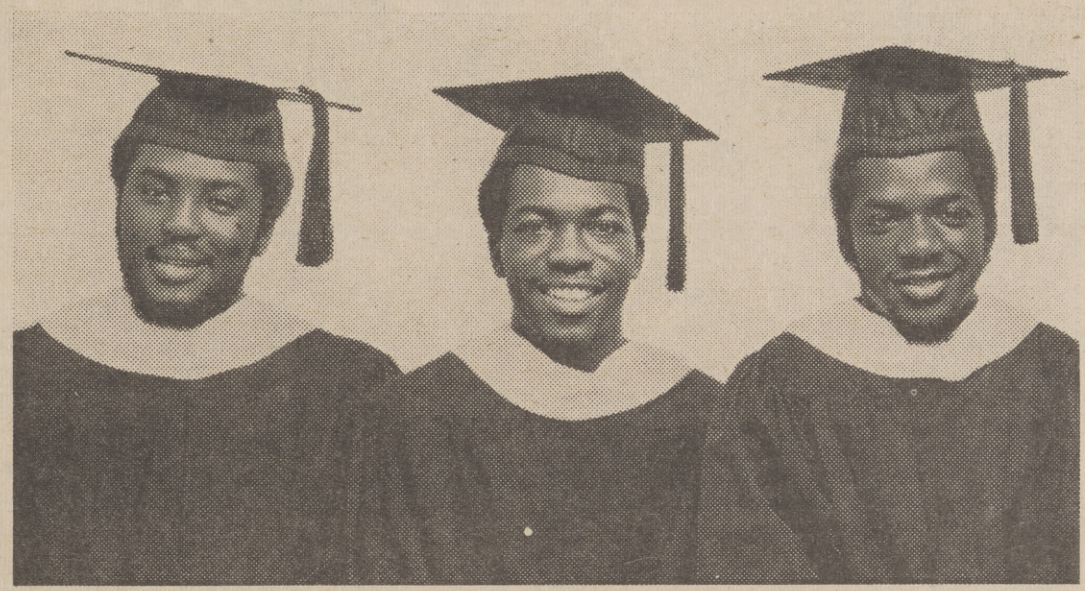
Over 11,000 scholarships will be awarded covering tuition and fees at public and private four-year colleges.

## NO. 1 TEAM

The Sacramento Dragonettes need no flashy introduction. These smiling girls have established themselves as the No. 1 drill team in Sacramento and perhaps Northern California. The Dragonettes have several routines they have created on their own. Such names as, "The Funky Mule," "Blow Your Mind," "Cha, Cha, Cha," and the "Meditation," all lend some idea as to what a crowd can expect when the unit does "their thing."

## INSPIRATIONAL LEADER

For every organization, there must be an inspirational leader. Mrs. Vicks who is the director of the Dragonettes Drill Team, fills that bill perfectly. "I sometimes counsel the girls on personal problems they might be experiencing, because many times it is easier for them to talk to me than their mothers." The Sacramento Dragonettes rose from obscurity to Northern California prominence in a very few years. Their success is due largely to the guidance and personal instruction of Mrs. Vicks.



# FRED GUIDRY'S THREE SONS WILL EARN MORE IN 1973 THAN HE HAS EARNED FOR 200 YEARS.

It's not unusual to find three college graduates in the same American family. Unless it's a family from Opelousas, Louisiana, right in the center of rural black America.

Fred Guidry has been a sawmill worker since 1933, earning at most $2400 a year. He's locked in a 200 year-old cycle of poverty, ignorance and prejudice that seems almost unbreakable.

But his sons broke out.

For openers, James, Fred and Larry graduated from Xavier University, New Orleans, in '68, '69 and '72.

After a year with IBM, James joined the Los Alamos Project, earned an M.S. in Computer Sciences and is now at Carnegie-Mellon studying Urban Affairs.

Fred researches solar physics at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Larry will return to his Ph.D. studies in chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh after completing his hitch with Uncle Sam.

Fred Guidry's three sons have an earning potential he only dreamed of. But they might never have made it without the United Negro College Fund.

We support Xavier and 39 other private colleges that help 45,000 students break out of the rural backwaters and urban ghettos of this country and into 20th century America.

We know there's a place for them. We know we can help them find it. All we need is money. Yours.

**A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste.**

**Give to the United Negro College Fund.**

55 East 52nd Street, New York, New York 10022.

# New College To Study Urban Problems

EAST LANSING, Mich. - Michigan State University will open the doors to its 17th college this fall.

Believed to be the first of its kind in the United States, MSU's new College of Urban Development will offer a series of courses emphasizing problems of urban living and racial and ethnic studies.

The new college extends the land grant tradition, pioneered by MSU at its founding in 1855.

Graduates of the new college will be prepared to help solve the pressing problems of the cities and areas of concern resulting from racial and ethnic discrimination and prejudice.

"A dedication to the eradication of urban problems must premeate university courses and field work," says Dr. Robert L. Green, acting dean of the newly formed college, "so that when the urban student leaves the university, he will continue his dedication to the poor community and to the creation of a better society."

The courses for the college have been modeled on this philosophy.

The urban program has been divided into two major parts - the Department of Urban and Metropolitan Studies and the Department of Racial and Ethnic Studies.

Urban and metropolitan students will have a choice of three major areas of study: urban health science, urban education systems and urban community development.

Students in racial and ethnic studies can choose between conflict intervention and change, or racism and ethnocentrism.

The new college will offer 11 courses in its initial term. Most of the classes will be "team" taught with two or more professors.

Courses range from "Critical Problems in Urban Health," and "Educational Segregation, Desegregation, Integration and Busing," to "Strategies for Change of Urban Systems."

Students will be expected to pursue an interdisciplinary education, with a concentration of at least 20 credit hours in an area outside of the College of Urban Development.

In addition, the students will take 12 to 24 credit hours of field work during their senior year in an appropriate public or private agency. They will earn bachelor of arts degrees. Plans remain indefinite at this time for the development of a graduate school in the college.

The interdisciplinary approach to solving the problems of America's cities is also reflected in the backgrounds of the faculty. Among the 24 faculty members are sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists, economists and an urban geographer. More than 20 graduate assistants from these fields also are involved in the teaching program. Many of the faculty members have retained joint appointments in other MSU colleges.

## SOULFLETTES

The Soulflettes, under the leadership of Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, are a slightly less experienced, but very promising drill team in Sacramento. There is a difference between "drilling" and "marching," according to Mrs. Williams. "Drilling is use of hands and feet to produce a type of beat. Marching is the use of instruments to accompany the girls routine." Obviously, the former is much more difficult to master. The Soulflettes Drill Team have done just that. Part of the group shown here, are, left to right, Sherri Kemp, Rosemary Gomez, Leola Gindratt, Louise Williams, Flo Holden, and Debra Wright. Members of the team not shown are: Roseline Williams, Terri Harris, Angela James, Phylis Daley, Rhoda Carter, Inga Ballard, and Robin Foster. Mrs. Williams was not available for a photograph.

## ELECTION CHANGE ANNOUNCED

Dr. Arnold Munoz, a candidate for the Sacramento Board of Education, has called for a change in "probably unconstitutional" city ordinances and state laws requiring that incumbents names be listed first on ballots followed by the other candidates in alphabetical order.

In a letter to Jaci DeFord, Sacramento City clerk, Munoz said recent court rulings have declared this practice unconstitutional because it gives an unfair advantage to those with surnames with high letters of the alphabet.

As an alternative to the current practice, Munoz suggested the listing of candidates be determined by public drawing.

Munoz, director of special education services at the University of California at Davis, said several studies show candidates receive a 5 per cent vote advantage when they are first on a ballot.

Munoz said he would pursue his request in the courts, if the city failed to voluntarily abandon "an obviously" inequitable practice.

## INTEGRATED SCHOOLS MAY RETARD BLACKS

NEW ORLEANS -- A political scientist from the Pacific Northwest told the American Political Science Association here that integrated schools may retard the political growth of blacks.

Alfred Arkley, an assistant professor of political science at Western Washington State College, said that research he had done indicated that black students in segregated schools were more politically aware and more inclined to participate in politics than were blacks in integrated schools.

Political awareness increased as the proportion of blacks in a school increased, he found.

Arkley based his conclusion on a study made in 1970 of 1,027 black and white fifth graders in 18 "low socio-economic" schools in two Michigan cities.

The study led Arkley to question the relevance of the nations' prevailing educational and judicial doctrine that holds that integration improves the academic performance of black students. Political action may be more important than cognitive skills in raising the socio-economic level of blacks, he said.

# Students Talk About Their Future...

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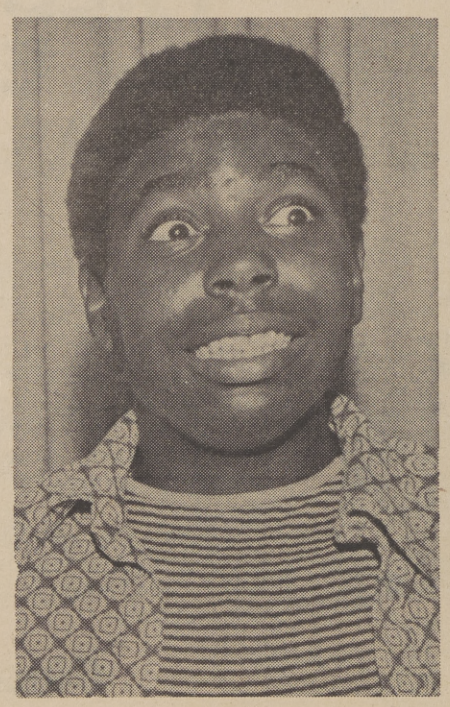
GERALDINE LARUE

like to be a social worker." Jean was asked of her hobbies: "Actually, I enjoy bicycling and outdoor sports. Also, I feel that sitting and thinking could keep me busy for hours."

Jean feels that at her particular high school, the social atmosphere is such that no changes are necessary: "Everybody gets along with each other fine." It seems that on a city-wide level, students are accepting each other better than a few years ago. One reason for this change is racial attitudes could be attributed to society as a whole, changing her attitudes. In any case, it is evident that Black and white are on a slightly more peaceful basis with one another.

During this survey of students, one thing was pretty obvious. Today's students are more socially, politically, and educationally aware than many give them credit for being. The majority of the answers differed from one another, yet there was a type of unity of will, a purpose of life and hope for their futures. This might hold a message in itself. It seems safe to say, after talking with these students, that the next generation of Blacks will be in good hands.



CORINTHIUS KING

NADINE STEPHENS